

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 22, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 15, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 13, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 121

**Introduced by Assembly ~~Member Blakeslee~~ Members *Blakeslee*
*and Jerome Horton***

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Liu)

(Principal coauthors: Senators Alarcon and Alquist)

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members *Aghazarian, Bermudez, Calderon,*
Chavez, Coto, Garcia, La Suer, Levine, Lieu, Mountjoy, Negrete
McLeod, Plescia, Torrico, and Yee)**

February 21, 2006

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 121—Relative to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 121, as amended, Blakeslee. 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

This measure would set forth the Legislature’s resolve to continue to study, plan, prepare, and support, future actions that will strengthen the state’s ability to withstand, respond to, and recover from future earthquakes.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Great San Francisco earthquake of April 18,
- 2 1906, resulted in over 3,000 fatalities and left one-half of the
- 3 400,000 residents of the city homeless; and

1 WHEREAS, The financial and economic impacts were
2 widespread and felt across and throughout the entire state; and

3 WHEREAS, April 18, 2006 is the Centennial Anniversary of
4 that historic and catastrophic event; and

5 WHEREAS, Risk Management Solutions, Inc., estimates that
6 a repeat of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake would result in up
7 to 8,000 deaths, 18,000 injuries requiring hospitalization, and
8 projected losses of up to \$225 billion; and

9 WHEREAS, The Southern California Earthquake Center
10 recently reported that an earthquake on a fault beneath Los
11 Angeles could result in up to 18,000 fatalities, up to 735,000
12 displaced households, and in excess of \$250 billion in total
13 damages in the region; and

14 WHEREAS, Recent testimony from the Director of the
15 Department of Water Resources stated that a 6.5 magnitude
16 earthquake could cause a collapse of up to 30 levees; flood 16
17 Delta islands, 3,000 homes, and over 85,000 acres of Delta
18 farmland; and damage 200 miles of additional levees, resulting in
19 \$30 billion in damages; and

20 WHEREAS, The 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and the 1994
21 Northridge earthquake are vivid and sobering reminders of the
22 ongoing and unpredictable risk that earthquakes continue to pose
23 to the residents and the vital infrastructure of California,
24 including dams, levees, bridges, critical energy infrastructure,
25 and essential services buildings; and

26 WHEREAS, Because of its unique geological and seismic
27 character, California remains one of the most seismically active
28 regions on earth, with massive and potentially destructive fault
29 systems such as the San Andreas fault *capable of generating*
30 *earthquakes of magnitude 8.0*, and the Hayward fault capable of
31 generating ~~major earthquakes of magnitude 8.0 or greater~~ 7.25;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, California continues to have numerous,
34 large-scale, and poorly understood fault systems; and

35 WHEREAS, The majority of California's 35 million residents
36 live and work in areas subject to earthquakes; and

37 WHEREAS, An increasing population will put more
38 Californians at risk from earthquakes in the future; and

39 WHEREAS, "Disaster Resistant California" (a consortium
40 consisting of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the

1 California Seismic Safety Commission, the Collaborative for
2 Disaster Mitigation of San Jose State University, the Earthquake
3 Engineering Research Institute, the Seismological Society of
4 America, the Western States Seismic Policy Council, and the
5 Association of Bay Area Governments) will jointly observe the
6 Centennial Anniversary of the Great San Francisco earthquake
7 by hosting a mega-conference in San Francisco on earthquakes
8 and the state's preparedness, starting April 18, 2006; and

9 WHEREAS, It is indisputable that California must assume a
10 proactive role to protect its residents from the threat of
11 destruction by future damaging earthquakes; now, therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
13 *thereof concurring*, That the California Legislature continue to
14 study, plan, prepare, and support future actions that will
15 strengthen the state's ability to withstand, respond to, and recover
16 from the next major earthquakes, which inevitably will occur,
17 and that the Legislature hereby states its intent that the lessons
18 learned from past earthquakes be applied to California's
19 preparedness, emergency response, and recovery efforts.

20 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby memorializes April 18,
21 2006, as the 100th anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco
22 earthquake.

23 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit
24 copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.